

1 Remarks**New Claims**

5 Claims 9 and 13 call for a multi-ply wood structure shear connection. This is part of the title of the present application. It is also supported by the preambles of claims 1 and 2 as originally filed and allowed.

10 Claims 9 and 13 call for "a plurality of wood structural members, said wood structural members being trusses." A plurality of wood structural members is called for in all of the claims originally filed and allowed. The plurality is also implied by the description of the present invention as multi-ply. Each ply
15 is a truss, and multiple trusses are a plurality of trusses. The use of multiple trusses is described in the paragraph at page 3, lines 21-30. A truss is also illustrated in drawing figure 7, and multiple chords of those multiple trusses
20 are shown in figure 9.

Claims 9 and 13 call for each truss to have a plurality of wood chords.

25 These trusses are described as having top and bottom chords, and therefore a plurality of chords on page 3, lines 21-23. Drawing figure 7 illustrates a truss having a plurality of chords, and this is described at page 10, lines
30 29-30. The materials commonly used for top and bottom chords are described at page 11, lines 9-11. The description states that "Screws must be installed in the bottom and top truss chords for best results, and may be installed in the truss webs if required by the Truss Engineer" at page 11,
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- 10 -

1 lines 31-33. Chords are specifically described as wood at page 3, lines
21-23, page 10, lines 35-36, and page 11, line 1.

5 Claim 9 calls for "said adjacent wood chords are formed with a first bore and
are joined by a first wood screw fastener for sistering said wood chords to
share loads." The first bore is described at page 5, lines 18-20. The "first
10 bore" is mentioned at page 6, line 13, page 7, lines 12 and 15, and page 8,
lines 15 and 23-24. It is supported by the preamble of claim 1 as originally
filed and allowed, and appears in claim 1 in subparts b, c and d, and in claim
15 2 at subparts b, c and d. The first wood screw fastener is ubiquitous to the
present application. Sistering is illustrated in drawings figures 9 and 11-15,
and is described in the paragraph at page 13, lines 3-16 and in the paragraph
at page 14, lines 8-13. Load sharing is described at page 10, lines 30-32
20 and at page 13, lines 11-14. Adjacent chords joined together are best
illustrated in drawing figure 9.

25 Claim 13 calls for "said adjacent chords are joined by a plurality of wood
screw fasteners for sistering said wood chords to share loads." A plurality of
wood screw fasteners is claimed in claim 2 as originally filed and allowed,
30 and is shown in drawing figures 8-10. Sistering is specifically illustrated in
drawings figures 9 and 11-15, and is described in the paragraph at page 13,
lines 3-16 and in the paragraph at page 14, lines 8-13. Load sharing is
described at page 10, lines 30-32 and at page 13, lines 11-14. Adjacent
35 chords joined together are best illustrated in drawing figure 9.

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Claims 9 and 13 call for "at least one of said wood chords extends parallel and adjacent to a chord of another of said trusses." Drawing figure 9 is a cross section of the truss chord illustrated in drawing figure 7, showing adjacent chords. Taken together, drawing figures 7 and 9 show adjacent chords extending parallel and adjacent to each other. It is also implied by the written description, as it would be extraordinarily difficult, if not impossible, to join multi-ply trusses if their chords were not parallel and adjacent to each other.

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Subparts i, ii, iii and iv of claim 9 are the same as subparts a, b, c and h, respectively of claim 1 as amended and allowed.

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Subparts i, ii, iii and iv of claim 13 are the same as subparts a, b, c and h, respectively of claim 2 as amended and allowed.

25 Claims 10 and 14 call for the wood screw fastener to be "at right angles to said chords." This is shown in drawing figure 9.

30 Claims 11 and 15 call for the head of the wood screw fastener to be "in direct contact with one of said chords." This is also shown in drawing figure 9.

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Docket No. SST/1032
Serial No. 09/692,674

- 12 -

1 Claims 12 and 16 call for the trusses to be roof trusses. This is the same limitation called for in claim 7 as originally filed and allowed.

5 Conclusion


It is submitted that the claims now pending are in condition for allowance.

The undersigned wishes to state that if the Examiner has any questions
10 about this response, the undersigned would be happy to try to answer them by telephone.

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Respectfully submitted,

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Reg. No. 241694


Charles R. Cypher, Attorney for Applicant
Law Offices of James R. Cypher
405 14th Street, Suite 1607
Oakland, CA 94612-2777
Tel (510) 832-4111
Fax (510) 832-4115

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